Scientist Urges Barrier Between Research and CIA

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"An absolutely impassible barrier" should be set up between Government intelligence agencies and American organizations engaged in foreign research, the executive secretary of the American Anthropological Society testified yesterday.

The witness, Dr. Stephen T. Boggs, told the Senate Government Operations Subcommittee on Government Research that a tie like that between the Central Intelligence Agency and Michigan State University in the late 1950s "awakens deep fears and suspicions in most of the world" toward American researchers.

The testimony marked the beginning of the Subcommittee's hearings on governmental support of private research. Last April 16, Chairman Fred R. Harris (D-Okla.) demanded that the CIA stay away from foreign research conducted by American universities.

The lead-off witness, Thomas L. Hughes, State Department director of intelligence and research, said that there was a growing realization in Government "that certain kinds of official support for social science research take on a political coloration which can have negative consequences for both the Government and the academic community."

Hughes said that the U.S. Government spent about $25.3 million in the past year in contracts for foreign research. He noted that half of this was spent by the Department of Defense and about $9 million by the Agency for International Development.

After Hughes mentioned that the State Department let research contracts for $200,000 last year, Harris termed the State Department's expenditure for research "measly" compared to the $12.5 million spent by the Defense Department.

"The tail is wagging the dog in this instance," Harris said.

Hughes detailed the working of the State Department's Foreign Affairs Research Council, which was established last November in wake of the controversy over Project Camelot, which engendered such hostility in Chile that the Defense Department had felt compelled to cancel it.

Hughes cautioned that "no amount of risk review can guarantee that there will not be another Camelot" since the State Department review is basically a "one-shot affair" before a project is approved.

Hughes said the Council considered all projects for social science research by private institutions if they were sponsored by military and foreign affairs agencies and involved foreign travel or contacts with foreign nationals. He said that "the projects most likely to pose problems of political sensitivity" fall in that category.

Since last July, the State Department has cleared 240 Government research projects. Hughes said that the Department had cleared 60 per cent of these cases unconditionally, had imposed mild or severe conditions in the remaining 40 per cent.

NASA-United Press International

GEMINI 10—Astronaut Michael Collins waits to enter the spacecraft at Kennedy Space Center, Fla., during a combined systems test in preparation for the 3-day mission. Gemini 10 will include a docking maneuver and extravehicular activity.